

1018 THE  
LIFE and Glorious HISTORY

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OF  
JOHN Duke and Earl of Marlborough,

Prince of the Empire, Captain-General of the Con-  
federate Forces, &c.

CONTAINING

A Relation of the most Important Battles, Sieges and Negotia-  
ons, managed under his Auspicious Conduct, both in the Wars of  
*Flanders* and *Ireland*. With a full and particular Account of the  
ever Memorable Battle of *Hockley* and *Schellenburg* in *Germany*. As  
also his March to the *Moselle* in 1705. His Return to the *Nether-*  
*lands*, and forcing the *French* Lines near *Tirlemont*; with other Re-  
markable Passages from his first Advancement in the Court of King  
*Charles II.* to this present Time. With the Addition of his Grace's  
last Glorious Campaign; particularly the Great and Memorable  
Battle of *Ramellies*.





## The Life and ~~Glorious~~ Actions of John Duke of Marlborough.

**T**Were worth a particular Enquiry, How *England* came to Breed so great a Soldier as His Grace, the present Duke of *Marlborough*; (if I may venture on the Terms) in the Unactive, Lazy Reign of a Prince, under whom he pass'd his Youth? At a time when there was ever more Business for the Cabinet than the Camp, and greater Application to Luxury and Riot than either; but if there be any Miracle in it, it may possibly be attributed to His own Early and Natural Genius in Martial Affairs, which he apply'd so happily, that besides being Grounded in the Rudiments of War, He had both the Honour and Advantage to make some Campaigns in *France*, under the Greatest Generals of those Times, viz. *Turenne*, *Conde* and *Luxemburgh*, and I may say under the *French King* himself, where by a singular Penetration, He grew Familiar with the Rules and Policies of War; so that his Christian Majesty may twit us, that tho' *England* made Him a General, 'twas *France* made him a Soldier; so far it may be true, that being acquainted with their own Maxims, He has since learnt the Admirable Foresight to Defeat their Policies; and Heading withal an Army who want no Courage to Execute His Stratagems, we are the less to Wonder at the great Progress He has made since He possess the General Command, in which He has a peculiar quickness to conceive an Advantage, and an equal Activity and Presence of Mind to put it in Execution, giving his Orders in so smooth a Manner, that those who receive 'em are Inspir'd with His Heroick Moderation. Adding to this His other Accomplishments, 'tis hard to find in one Man, so much of the Soldier, and so much of the Gentleman; being of both (perhaps) the most Compleat that e'er *Europe* Bred. — He came to Court not only with the Advantage of fine Parts, but a fine Person, which soon won Him the Regard of the King and those about Him, distinguishing Himself by a most Genteel Air, and Obliging Deportment; Qualities so Necessary to Rise by at Court, that he who do's not possess at least Three of the Four, may be said to lose Three parts of his Time there. — He was at first Page of Honour to the then Duke of *York*, who did not want Judgment to discern the early Promises he made of being a great Man, and therefore was not backward to support Him with his Favour. The Family He Descended from cou'd be no Impediment to his future Glories, which Fortune seem'd now to open a way to, being Son and Heir to Sir *Winstan Churchil*, of *Wootton* in *Dorsetshire*, or of *Mimborne*, from another Seat he possess in the same County; the other two Brothers, *Charles* and *George*, being the only remaining of Six, we find one Lieutenant General of Her Majesty's Forces; and the other, one of the Admirals of Her Majesty's Fleet; there was also 3 Sisters, but how dispos'd of, is Foreign to my



( 5 )  
away on particulars, as possible the subject may require. Therefore to return.

With all these Advantages, as well as being His Master's Favourite, 'tis no great Wonder that we find Him arriv'd to that Eminence of Fame, on which he is deservedly plac'd; who had he Fought for a Common-wealth as considerable as that of *Rome*, had no doubt made himself the Head on't; but 'tis more to His Glory and ours, that he has done it for his Country, in which he is not more Belov'd by the Sovereign, than Ador'd by the People.—— His first Step to Glory (since ev'ry Step must be taken that Fortune cuts out) was the Honour of a Colours in the Royal Foot-Guards, which the Duke gave him, being then but Young, rather to Humour His forward Inclination to Martial Affairs, than for any thing else; for we soon find Him dignified with a better Command. It happening about that time, that King *Charles II.* pursuant to an Agreement with the *French King*, was to lend him some Troops to assist in the Wars against *Holland*, and which he appointed to be Commanded by the Duke of *Monmouth*; who ever retained an inward respect for Mr. *Churchill*, with the Duke of *Tork's* Approbation, took him with him into *France*, and gave Him a Company in his own Regiment; where the *English* perform'd such signal Services for the *French*, as have been as much prejudicial to our own Nation since, as they were then to those they Fought against, especially at the Siege of *Maestricht*, where the *French King* Commanded in Person, and was an Eye-Witness of the Bravery of the *English* Troops, to which the taking of that Important Place was chiefly owing; for when the *French* had fail'd in an Attempt upon the Counterscarp, and were than half tired with the Siege, The Duke of *Monmouth* at the Head of *English*, accompanied by 12 Voluntier-Gentlemen (of which Number was His Grace the present Duke of *Marlborough*) took it Sword in hand; so that the Town Capitulated in a few Days after.

'Twas here His Grace pick'd up those Maxims of War, which he has so wonderfully improv'd since. But a stop was put to His Progress at this time, for King *Charles* finding that the *French* Fought for themselves, and what the *English* took they possess, had clapt up a Peace with the States of *Holland*; and Issued out a Proclamation, Commanding all His Subjects in the *French* Service, as Soldiers, forthwith to quit that Service, and return home, prohibiting any *Englishmen* to engage themselves in it for the future. This occasion'd His Grace's Return to *England*, where, by a particular Character of His Bravery and Conduct from the Duke of *Monmouth*, He was made Lieutenant Colonel to Sir *Charles Littleton*, and Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber, and Master of the Robes to the Duke of *Tork*.

And now He began to make a considerable Figure in the *English* Court, sufficient to recommend Him to the King's more immediate Knowledge, as likewise to the esteem of the Ladies, where among other His Gallantries, He made no inconsiderable Conquest in the Person of Madam *Sarah Jennings*, Daughter of *Richard Jennings Esq;* a Lady of great Wit and Beauty, to whom His Grace making a final Resignation of His Heart, was Married to the mutual Satisfaction of 'em both. Not long after he Kist the King's Hand for the Barony of *Anmouth* in *Scotland*, and soon upon the Neck of that, was all

Created Baron of *Sundridge* in *Hartfordshire*, by the Title of Lord *Churchill*. Nor did the King stick here, for to support His Title with the greater Liberality, he soon after gave him a Regiment of Dragoons. And now the Duke of *Tork* ascending the Throne, we may expect to hear of Him rais'd to some new Honours and Preferment, which possibly His Grace's firm adherence to the Protestant Religion might somewhat obstruct. However He was for the present made Gentleman of the Bed-chamber to the King, and Captain of a Troop of Life-Guard. King *James* was willing to engage Him in the Interest of his Court-Party at that time, as knowing Him a populous Man, and one that bore no small sway among the *English* Nobility; but His Grace, who wisely foresaw what was in Agitation, and what must of Consequence happen, if his Majesty suffer'd himself to be prey'd on by those *Wipers* about him, declin'd acting too familiarly in the present Transactions, yet kept as near His Duty to the King, as the Interest of his Country, and the Preservation of His Religion would permit. King *James* about this time resolving on a standing Army, thought no Person fitter to be Lieutenant-General than His Grace, who always, by an Extraordinary vigilance, secur'd the King's good Graces, yet acted with that reserv'd caution as the present occasion required. — In the Year 1688. and that of our Happy and Glorious Revolution, under the Conduct of His late Sacred Majesty *William* the III. His Grace having preserv'd his Duty inviolably to King *James*, and having (with other of the Nobility) us'd all the Arguments he cou'd with him to call a free Parliament, and restore the Rites and Priviledges of the Nation; in which Case His Grace, and the rest of the Nobility then present declared they would stand by him with their Lives and Fortunes, against all Opposers; but finding him inexorable, and deaf to all Perswasions, and that there was no hopes of saving the Nation otherwise, things being come to that pass, His Grace on the 25th of *November*, with the Duke of *Grafton*, and many other of the Protestant Nobility, left him, and went over to King *William*, being then at *Sherbourn*: Nor was His Grace less Propitious in his Maxims at that Juncture, than he has been Fortunate in his Undertakings since; for like a true *Englishman*, and a Lover of his Country, he prefer'd the Preservation of that, and his Religion, before the more inconsiderable Tyes of Duty and Interest, which he might hope under the Influence of one to whom he was no small Favourite. But K. *James* having now Abdicated the Kingdom, and fled to *France*, we find the Crown, quickly after, given to King *William*, their Great deliverer. The welcome his Grace receiv'd from the King at his coming over to him at *Sherbourn*, was express'd by his Majesty with no little satisfaction; for he that was entirely acquainted before with the State of the Nation (especially with the Constitution of the Army, as well as with his Grace's early Actions abroad) knew very well he had entertain'd no little Soldier, in the Person of one whom he knew fit to Command an Army; to facilitate which, and to make his Grace wholly his own, his Majesty was no sooner advanc'd to the Throne, but his Grace was advanc'd to the Council, and Created Gentleman of the King's Bed-chamber, as he was soon after Earl of *Mariborough*. King *William* being seated thus on the Throne, and ha-



ying declar'd War against *France*, he sent his Grace to command the *English* Forces in *Flanders*, where he signaliz'd himself at the Battle of *Walcourt*, and heading a Detachment of *English*, gave a check to the *French*, under Marechal-*d'Humiers*, who had advantageously attack'd the Confederate Army; and in the end forc'd him to retreat, with the loss of many Men slain, and some Cannon and Ammunition taken; and having ended his Campaign, he return'd to *England*.

The next Year His Grace was design'd for Conquests in another Place; which was to reduce two Harbours, of *Cork* and *King'sale* in *Ireland*: being the only Person fix'd on for this Expedition, was to Act in concert with some Troops that were already in those parts of *Ireland*; and therefore immediately upon his Arrival, he sent to acquaint to Duke of *Wirtemburgh*; and Major General *Scravenmore*; and the next Day prepar'd to enter the Harbour, where he was oppos'd by the Enemy, who had a Battery of Eight Guns there; but his Grace sending Three Arm'd Boats ashore, they soon oblig'd the *Irish* to quit their Guns. On the 23d, His Grace order'd the greatest part of the Land Forces up the Passages, headed by the Duke of *Grafton*, Six Miles from *Cork*, who being come the next Day within a Mile of the Town, they began to Mount their Cannon, having with them near Six Hundred Seamen, Gunners and Carpenters, that did considerable Service; and having rais'd a Battery there, they ply'd both the City and Fort with their Cannon and Mortars, and from another Battery above the Fort, near the Abbey; and soon made a breach in the City Wall, and his Grace, with his usual quickness, ordering all things for an Assault, it soon brought the Besieged to demand a Parley; thereupon Hostages were exchanged, and a Truce granted till next Morning, when the Besieged not accepting the Terms offer'd them, His Grace ordered the Cannon to Fire again upon the Town, which was done with great Fury, and having considerably widened the Breach, the *Danes* from the North, and Four Regiments of *English* from the South, under Brigadier *Churchill*, his Grace's Brother, were order'd to pass the River, into the East Marsh, which they did up to their Arm-pits, in order to Storm the Town on that side. The Grenadiers under the Lord *Colchester* led the Van, Marching forward with incredible Bravery, tho' all the while expos'd to the Enemies Fire, being headed by the Duke of *Grafton*, the Lord *Brian*, Colonel *Granville*, and some other resolute Volunteers. The Van immediately posted themselves under the Bank of the Marsh, which seem'd to be a kind of Counterscarp to the City Wall; in which approach the Duke of *Grafton* Marching bravely at the Head of the Grenadiers, receiv'd a Mortal Wound on the Point of his Shoulder; at the same time his Grace order'd the *Salamander*, and another Vessel to come up with the Tide, and lie at the end of the Marsh directly before the City-Wall, and play their Cannon upon the Breach, as also to throw their Bombs into the City, which was perform'd with good Success. All things being ready for a General Assault, the Besieged thought to prevent it, by beating a second Parley: And at last the Earl of *Tyronne* and Colonel *Ricaut*, being sent from the Governour, were glad to accept his Grace's Conditions.

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There were besides the Earls of *Tyrone* and *Clancarty*, Collonel *Makelieu*, Governour of the Place, and Collonel *Ricaut*, several other Officers of Note taken Prisoners; all whom his Grace us'd with much Courtesy. And now resolving to lose no time, while the Season would permit, the same Day the *English* enter'd *Cork*, being the 28th of *September*, a Detachment of Horse and Dragoons, under the Command of Brigadier *Villers*, was sent to summon the Town and Forts of *Kinsale*; upon whose Approach the *Irish* were ready to set the Town on Fire; but being prevented by the sudden Arrival of the *English*, they retreated in haste to the old and new Forts. On the 1st of *October* his Grace set out from *Cork*, and the same Day arriv'd at *Fivemile-bridge* and the next before *Kingsale*, and having form'd his Camp toward Evening, gave Directions to make the necessary Approaches toward the New-Fort, while Major General *Tettau* was order'd to attack the Old-Fort, who the next Morning early pass'd the River in Boats, and made a feint of Storming the Fort in the weakest place, where most of the besieged were ready to receive him; but in the interim a second Detachment made a furious Assault in another Quarter, where the Enemy least suspected them, and by that means soon made themselves Masters of a Bastion. At the same time several Barrels of Powder took Fire, and blowing up about Forty of the *Irish*, the rest retir'd into an old Castle, in the middle of the Fort, and immediately surrender'd Prisoners of War, having lost about Two Hundred Men out of Four Hundred and Fifty. This Service being perform'd with great Bravery, and little loss, his Grace sent next to summon the New-Fort, which was more considerable than the other; but Sir *Edward Scot* the Governour answer'd, *I wou'd be time enough to Capitulate a Month hence*: Whereupon His Grace order'd the Trenches to be open'd on the 5th of *October*; and by the 9th they were advanc'd to the Counterscarp, but the ill Weather hinder'd the coming up of the Cannon till the 11th, at which time part of it arriv'd; and the next Morning Six Pieces were mounted at the *Danes* Attack, and two Mortars at the *English*, which fir'd all that Day. The 13th Two Twenty Four Pounders were plac'd on the same Battery, and on the 14th the rest of the Cannon arriv'd; three of which were mounted on the *English* Battery; while the *Danes* commanded by the Duke of *Wintembergh*, having made a considerable Breach, made a false Attack the Night following, to disturb the Enemy. The 15th the Cannon continu'd to fire all the Morning, when a Breach being made, and all things preparing for a Storm, the Governour beat a Parley, and sent out Messengers to His Grace to agree on Exchange of Hostages, which being perform'd, the Articles were agreed on, and sign'd about Midnight; by which the Middle-Bastion was to be delivered up the next Morning, and the Garrison, consisting of about Eleven Thousand Men, was to march out the next Day after with their Arms and Baggage, and be conducted to *Limerick*. The *English* lost before this Three Hundred Men kill'd or wounded, which was inconsiderable to the great Advantage they gain'd by subduing the Place: Which Glorious Expedition His Grace having perform'd with wonderful dispatch, considering the Season of the Year, embark'd again for *England*, and arriv'd the 28th of *October* at *Kensington*, where he receiv'd that favourable Welcome from Their Majesties which his Great Services had deserv'd; as he did also from the Prince and Princess at *St. James's*.



And now his Grace having spent some part of the Winter with his Family, prepar'd to wait on His Majesty into *Holland*; who on the 2d of *May* set Sail with a fair Gale, attended by a Squadron of Men of War, under the Command of Admiral *Rook*, and arriv'd the next Evening at the *Hague*; from thence His Majesty proceeding to *Loo*, dispatch'd His Grace and Count *Solmes* away to *Flinders*, to prepare all things against his Arrival, who soon follow'd, and put himself at the Head of the Confederate Army; when having baulk'd the Marshal *Boufflers* in his Design upon *Liege*, endeavour'd all he could to draw Monsieur *Luxemburgh* to an Engagement, as well by Marches and Counter-marches, as by giving Umbrage of Attacking *Maubuge*; but *Luxemburgh* too cautiously avoided Fighting, unless on the greatest disadvantage to the King; so that His Majesty having blown up the Fortifications of *Beaumont*, march'd toward *Acib*, from whence he parted on the 17th for *Loo*, leaving Prince *Waldeck* the Chief Command of the Army, and to His Grace the Command of the *English*. The same Day they Decamp'd from *Ikonwel* to *Leuze*, and advanc'd the 19th toward *Cambrun*, and by Eleven a Clock the whole Right Wing, with the Body of Foot, and the greatest part of the Horse of the Left Wing, had pass'd the little River, and Defil'd near *Catoire*. The Duke of *Luxemburgh* being inform'd of this Motion, advanc'd at the same time with the Troops of the *French* King's Household, and a strong Detachment of his Cavalry, making in all Fifty Five Squadrons; his swift March not being discover'd by reason of a thick Fog, he charg'd the Rear Guard of the Confederates with great Fury. Count *Tilly* drew up his Men as well as the suddenness of the Attack would permit, and receiv'd the Shot with great Bravery, but was soon over-power'd, and put into Disorder. By this time several of those were brought back who had already pass'd the River under M. *Overkirk* and *Obdam*, who form'd a 2d Line, gave time to the first to Rally; while some Battalions headed by his Grace, put a stop to the *French* Progress; who being unwilling to push the Action too far, retir'd in some haste and confusion; and with this Action ended the Campaign on that side; and his Grace having settled Winter-Quarters for the *English* Troops, arriv'd the 30th of *October* in *England*; where how he came quickly after to lay down his Commission, is still a Secret; but 'tis certain King *William* found a great want of him, and cou'd never after supply his Vacancy, retaining a great Veneration for his Great Parts and Abilities, which he express'd soon after, when time had dissipated some Prejudices that were whisper'd against him; For tho His Grace was no more active in the War during the King's Life, yet his Majesty, by a kind of prophetick Esteem and wonderful Foresight, had some time before his Death constituted him his Plenipotentiary, and Commander in Chief of the *English* Auxiliary Forces in *Holland*; as knowing (besides his own personal Virtues, to recommend him grateful in those high Employments) he was equally esteem'd and lov'd by both Nations. This, as much as it is represented the King's Judgment in the Choice of so able a Minister and General, express'd no less the great Merit of the Person it was bestow'd on; for no Man could be unwelcome to either of these Nations, whom the known Prudence and exquisite Judgment of King *William* had made Choice of. Nor was this Disposition in the King less fortunate in the Effects, than His Majesty's admirable Prudence had appear'd by ordering it so; for the Nation not

( 8 )

long after being almost left comfortless, by the loss of His Sacred Person, and a War ready to blaze out Abroad, besides Divisions and Tumults we were threatned with at Home; in the midst of a Storm, which might have happen'd otherwise; by his Majesty's singular Direction all things were carried on after his Death with the greatest Calm imaginable; for the Grand Alliance being then just Cementing, and *Holland* under the greatest Apprehension, being importunately and arrogantly press'd by the *French* Ambassador to a Neutrality, Her Majesty Queen *Anne* being then Proclaim'd immediately, dispatch'd his Grace to the *States*, with the Title of Her Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. On the 28th of *March* His Grace arriv'd at the *Hague*, and had several Conferences with the Pensionary of *Holland*, and on the 31st His Grace made a most noble Speech, which was highly pleasing to the *States*. So that His Grace having settled several very important Affairs with the Deputies of the *States*, and given his Advice for the intended Siege of *Keyser'swaert*, and other Matters for opening the Campaign, left the *Hague* in order to embark for *England*, where he safely arriv'd on the 5th of *April* following: Where having been present at several necessary Debates, and his Presence being now much wanted in the Field, on the 12th Day of *May* His Grace set out for *Holland*, and arrived there on the 15th, where he made a short stay to settle some Matters in relation to the Campaign.

By this time the Allies before *Keyser'swaert*, having resolv'd upon a general Assault, and prepar'd all things for the same, the *French* thought fit to agree upon Articles for the Surrender of the Place. In pursuance of this Capitulation, which was sign'd the 15th N. S. the Fort of *Keyser'swaert* was surrendred, and the Garrison march'd out upon the 17th: And thus a considerable Body of the Confederate Army being at Liberty, one Part was order'd to reinforce the Earl of *Athlone*, and the rest were posted in other Places, to refresh themselves after the Fatigues of Two Months Siege, *Keyser'swaert* having been first invested on the 16th of *April*, N. S.

This was the State of the Campaign, when His Grace set out for the Army; besides that the *States General* had sent Orders to all their Generals, and other Officers, to obey him; creating him Generalissimo of all their Forces. He left the *Hague* on the 30th of *June*, N. S. and on the 2d of *July* arriv'd at *Nimiguen*, where the Earl of *Athlone*, General *Dopff*, and the other principal Officers, paid him the usual Compliment, and that no time might be lost, His Grace, at that Interview, gave the necessary Orders for drawing together the Army; so that Nineteen Battalions of the Troops employ'd in the Siege of *Keyser'swaert*, with the Troops of *Hess* and *Lunenburgh*, and the *English* Forces from *Breda*, under Major General *Lumley*, and other Troops, were hasten'd from all Parts toward *Nimeguer*, in order to form a Camp at *Ducknburgh*; where His Grace being arriv'd, he call'd a Council of War, consisting of all the General Officers, to concert the further Operations of the Campaign; and on the 16th, the Troops being most come up, His Grace march'd the Army over the *Maese*, and pitched his Camp at *Over-Asse*, near the *Grave*, within two Leagues and a half of the Enemy, who had entrench'd themselves between *Goch* and *Gennep*.

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The great Expectations of a Glorious Campaign had drawn abundance of Volunteers to attend His Grace, among which was Prince *Earnest Augustus*, youngest Brother to the Elector of *Hanover*, who being desirous to learn the Trade of War under the *English* General, His Grace declar'd his Highness Major General of the Army, and at the same time appointed Collonel *Witbers*, Collonel *Stanley*, and Collonel *Fredrick Hamilton*, Brigadiers of Three *English* Brigades. On the 26th His Grace repast the *Maeſe* below the *Grave*, and on the 28th encamp't at *Geldorp*, which Motion oblig'd the *French* to paſs the ſame River about *Venlo*; wherefore His Grace decamp'd again from *Geldorp* to *Grevenbrœk*, where finding a *French* Garrison in the Caſtle, ſeated in a Morafs, and ſurrounded with a double Ditch and good Palifadoes, His Grace order'd it to be attack'd, and after ſome Reſiſtance, it was forc'd to ſurrender at Diſcretion. From hence on the 2d of *Auguſt* (N. S.) His Grace advanc'd to *Petit brugel*, following the *French* ſo cloſe, that the latter were oblig'd to quit the *Spaniſh Guelderland*. Thus the Confederates, who were lately forc'd to retreat under the Cannon of *Nimeguen*, had now the Pleaſure to ſee the Enemy fly in their turn; and the States of the United Provinces, to ſee their Country preſerv'd by the Prudence and Vigilance of an *English* Leader. In the mean time having detach'd General *Schult*, to take in the Town and Caſtle of *Werts*, which Capitulated after a ſhort Reſiſtance; he broke up with the Confederate Army from *Everbeck*, and march'd directly to *Holſtein*, in order to force the *French* to quit their Camp at *Bergeijk*, or cut off their Convoys; when the Army came to their Ground, the Enemy appear'd in Battle-array behind ſeveral Moraffes and Deſies, whereupon His Grace advanc'd againſt them; but not being able to engage them without a maniſeſt diſadvantage by the badneſs of the Ground and a Morafs that lay between them; after having Cannonaded each other all Day, the Armies parted, and His Grace on the 29th of *Auguſt* following decamp'd from thence, and march'd to *Aſt*. The ſame Day the Town of *Venlo* was inveſted by *Monſieur Opdam*, with a Detachment of *English* and *Dutch* on one ſide of the *Maeſe*, and by the *Margrave* of *Brandenburgh*, Brother to the King of *Pruſſia*, with the *Pruſſian* Forces on the other ſide. Upon which the Duke of *Burgundy* return'd to *Laris*, to avoid being Witneſs of the taking that Place. And having made the neceſſary Preparations for a general Aſſault, to which the Soldiers ſhew'd an eager Deſire. They immediately beat a Parley, ſurrendered the Place on the 25th, and purſuant to the Capitulation, were conducted to *Anwerp* with their Arms and Baggage, but without any Cannon or Mortars; which they at firſt inſiſted upon, and which the Prince of *Naffau Saarbruck* would never allow them.

His Grace having receiv'd Expreſs of the Surrender of *Venlo*, reſolv'd to puſh his Conqueſts on to the uttermoſt, and to make the beſt of the Seaſon while it laſted, conſidering the *French* were reſolv'd to be ſo ſecure from a Battle, as not to venture within the hearing of the Towns that were taken, as alſo that it was the latter end of *Septemher* when *Venlo* ſurrender'd; ſo that His Grace order'd the *English*, *Dutch* and *Pruſſians*, employ'd againſt that Place, to march immediately and inveſt *Ruremond*, the ſecond City of *Guelderland*; where they arriv'd the 29th of *Septemher*, and the next Day regulated their Camp as well as the Ground and the River *Rœr* would permit; ſo that having open'd the Trenches,

and Firing furiously upon the Place, the Garrison thought fit to Capitulate on the 6th of *October* (N. S.) The Articles were much upon the same Foot with those of *Venlo*, and the Garrison was conducted to *Louvain*.

During this Siege, *Stevenswaert*, a fortified Town, seated on the *Maese*, about Five Miles from *Ruremond*, to the South, was also vigorously Attack'd and Taken by Capitulation. These Successes made the Marshal *Boufflers* look about him, not knowing where his Grace might possibly advance next to make new Conquests, but had a violent suspicion that his Eyes were fix'd on *Liege*, which he justly apprehended to be in no small danger; therefore being accompanied by the Duke of *Maine*, and taking with him some Ingeniers, he went to view the Fortifications of the Cittadel, and after that, of all the most considerable Posts between that City and *Maestrick*, as if he had intended to Encamp there, where possibly his Grace would have been glad to have found him; but the Marshal cool'd upon the Matter, and thought fit to Retreat upon the Motion of his Grace, with great Precipitation, toward *Brabant*, to defend such Places as were never design'd to be Attack'd.

The Deputies of the States thought by this time they had made a good hand of the Campaign, and were contented to sit down as they were, without exposing the Troops to a tedious March, and the hazard of a Battle so late in the Year; but his Grace, who knew he had nothing to fear from either of these reasons, as well as that the taking of *Liege* would very much secure and strengthen his Conquests, and highly add to the Reputation of the Confederate Arms, resolv'd to give one finishing stroke to the Campaign; and by an extraordinary March from his Camp at *Soutendale*, on the 11th of *October* (N. S.) he arriv'd the next Day before *Liege*, where he found the Suburb of *St. Walburgh* set on Fire by the *French* Garrison, who afterward retired, one part into the Cittadel, and t'other in the *Chatreuse*; the same Evening the Chapter and Magistracy sent Commissioners to his Grace, desiring to treat of the surrender of the Town, which being readily granted, the next day Articles were sign'd on both sides, in pursuance of which Agreement, one of the Gates of the City was deliver'd up to the Confederates that Night, and the next Day they took possession of the whole Town.—Six days after, the Trenches were open'd before the great Cittadel, and a sufficient Breach being made, the Counterscarp was attack'd with such fury, that the *French* could not defend that Post, and abandon'd the same; but the Allies, instead of Lodging themselves thereon, got into the cover'd Way, pass'd the Ditch, mounted the Breach, and took the Place by dint of Sword. Mr. *de Violaine* the Governour, who five days before, upon a Summons to Surrender, sent his GRACE Word, that it would be time enough to think of that six Weeks hence, was so surpriz'd at this vigorous Attack, that he immediately beat a Parley: But the Victorious Allies being already in the Place, would not hearken to it, and had kill'd all they met, if the *French* had not thrown down their Arms, and begg'd Quarter, which they obtain'd. All the Troops, and particularly the *English*, behav'd themselves to Admiration, and besides Honour, got a very considerable Booty, for, in the Cash of Treasure alone,



alone, there were 300000 Florins in Gold and Silver, and Notes for 1200000 Florins upon Substantial Merchants at *Liege*, which were as good as Money. This Citadel being thus taken after a Fight of about three quarters of an Hour, the Confederate Victory was soon after compleated by the Surrender of the *Chartreuse*.

On the 3d of November (N. S.) the Confederate Army seperated near *Liege*, and his Grace came the same Day to *Maestricht*, where he embarked that Evening on the *Maese* for Holland, in Company with Monsieur *Geldermansel*, one of the Deputies of the States, and Monsieur d' *Opdam* General of Horse, taking on Board with them Twenty five Soldiers under the Command of a Lieutenant, to serve as a Convoy; but the Boats being separated in the Night, and the Horse marched to some Distance from the River side, between Eleven and Twelve at Night, a Party of Thirty five Men of the Carrison of *Gelder*, who lay skulking on the Banks, near three Leagues on this side *Venlo*, having by Surprise seized the Rope with which the Boat was drawn, and hauled it to Shore, they immediately made a Discharge of their small Arms upon the Boat where their Excellencies were; and then threw in several Granadoes, with which some of their People were wounded, the Party entred and seized the Boat, and having examined the several Passports, without knowing the Duke of *Marlborough*, they afterwards searched the Trunks and Baggage, from whence they took what Plate they could find, and made their Excellencies Guard of Foot, Prisoners, and above five in the Morning retired with their Booty, leaving their Excellencies to continue their Voyage.

The People at the *Hague* were in great Consternation till the Arrival of His Grace that Evening. Whereupon the Streets were so crowded, that it was with much Difficulty that his Grace passed to his House, and all possible Demonstrations of Joy were shewn by all Ranks of People for his Grace's Escape and safe Arrival. His Grace's having receiv'd the Compliments of all the Foreign Ministers and Persons of Quality at the *Hague*, upon his Glorious Campaign this Summer, concerted Measures with the Deputies of the States for the next. And on the 26th of November went for the *Brill*, where embarking on Board the *Peregrine* Yacht for England, he safely arriv'd the next day near *Margate*, and on the 28th came to *White-hall*, where he was receiv'd with great Joy, and highly Complimented on the Glorious Success of his Campaign.

Upon the 2d of December following the Queen was pleas'd to declare, before a Committee of Council, that she was so well satisfied of the Eminent Services of my Lord *Marlborough* to the Publick, and to her self, both in the Command of the Army, and the entire Confidence he had settled between Her and the States-General, that she intended to make him a Duke. Her Majesty had before this, on the 6th of June, created him Master of the Ordinance, and nothing was wanting to compleat his Graces Character Abroad, or his esteem at Home, the Eyes of the whole Nation being fix'd on him, and all their hopes center'd in his Great Abilities and earnest Endeavours for the common Cause, which they had with much Joy and Satisfaction experienced by the late Campaign; that they had not only a General of their own Nation to Fight for 'em, but one that had in a great Measure retriev'd the Ancient Glory of his Country. And now 'tis fit we give his Grace a little respite in his own private Affairs. — Having Married his Daughter, the Lady *Churshil*, to the Right Honorable the Earl of *Bridgewater*,

and settled several Points with the Officers, in relation to the Preparations for the Campaign, he retir'd with his Dutcheſs to his Seat at *St. Albans*, to give Life a little Diverſion from the conſtant Fatigue of War and Buſineſs,

But while his Grace was enjoying this ſmall Repoſe, Fortune gave the greateſt Blow to diſturb the Tranquility of his Mind; for on Sunday the 21<sup>ſt</sup> of *February* came an Expreſs from *Cambridge*, with the melancholy News of the Death of his only Son, the Marquiſs of *Blandford*, who died at the Univerſity of the Small-Pox the Evening before. A Youth, beſides the Comelineſs of his Perſon, of an affable Temper and Excellent Parts, and in whom we had reaſon to hope to ſee thoſe Moral, Political, and Military Virtues continu'd, which ſhine ſo perſpicuouſly in his Illuſtrious Father. His Grace, with the Dutcheſs, went down ſome Days before to ſee him, when, to their inexpressible Grief, they found him paſt Recovery, and return'd with great Concern to *St. Albans*; where the next Day Her Maſteſty ſent the Lord High-Treaſurer of *England* to condole them, on the Death of their only Son, who was the Night following privately interr'd in *King's-Colledge*.

In the interim his Grace's Equipage was getting ready for *Holland*, and the Yatchs and Men of War order'd to attend him, waited only his Pleaſure. Accordingly on the laſt Day of *February* his Grace arriv'd in Town from *St. Albans*, and began to put every thing in order for his Departure, which he deſign'd with the firſt opportunity of Wind; his Preſence being wanted there, to concert the neceſſary Meaſures for the opening the Campaign on the *Lower Rhine*. So that on the 3<sup>d</sup> of *March* following, his Grace ſet out for *Holland*, and arriv'd at *Rotterdam* on the 16<sup>th</sup>, (N. S.) and the ſame Day at the *Hague*, where he was complimented by the Generals, *Overkirk*, *Dorſſ* and *Coeborn*; as alſo by my Lord *Paget*, and ſeveral Forreign Miniſters: All the General Officers dining with him the next Day. And on the 21<sup>ſt</sup> the Prince of *Heſſe Caſſe* arriv'd at the *Hague* to make the Campaign under his Grace.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> his Grace ſet out from the *Hague* to view the *Engliſh* in their ſeveral Garrisons, and from thence ſent Orders to the Troops near *Lige*, to hold themſelves in Readineſs, and alſo diſpatch'd General *Coeborn* to make the neceſſary Preparations for the Siege of *Bon*; and on the 3<sup>d</sup> of *April*, (N. S.) return'd to the *Hague*, where having had another Conſultation with the Deputies of the States, and ſettled his laſt Diſpatches, he departed the 9<sup>th</sup> for *Nimwegen*, where he was met by General *Coeborn*; arriv'd ſew Hours before from *Zealand*; the next Day the Maſtrates came in a Body to compliment his Grace, and with him a Glorious Campaign; from whence on the 11<sup>th</sup> he ſet out for *Venlo*, and paſt the next Day through *Rurem* and *Stevenswaert* to *Waſſeyck*, and ſo to *Maſtrich*, being receiv'd in all theſe Towns with great Marks of Reſpect, the Garrison being drawn out, and the Cannon diſcharg'd. On the 14<sup>th</sup> his Grace proceeded to *Liege*, to viſit that Garrison, and confer with Count *Zinſendorſ*, returning to *Maſtrich* the ſame Night.

And now his Grace having given Orders every where for the neceſſary Preparations, reſolv'd to open the Campaign with the Siege of *Bon*; and accordingly cauſ'd that Place to be inveſted on the 24<sup>th</sup> of *April* (N. S.) On the 8<sup>th</sup> of *May*, the Batteries being ready, the Beſiegers began to fire with good ſucceſs: For the ſame Day, the Chain which held the flying



Bridge, by means of which the Fort communicated with the Town, was broke by a Cannon-shot, and the Bridge staved in pieces, and carried away by the Stream, notwithstanding the Enemies Endeavours to save it. The next Day the Battery which play'd upon the Fort, made such a Breach, that the General resolv'd to storm it; but the *French* not thinking themselves safe there, set fire to the Cazernes, and retreated into the Ravelin, in order to get into the Town in Boats. The Besiegers Diligence and Valour prevented their Design; so that the Commander of the Fort, and Thirty of his Men were made Prisoners, the rest being either killed or drown'd: A Success so unsuspected, that the Duke of *Marlborough* and General *Opdam* sent Expresses to the States General to acquaint them with it.

All things being now in readiness to assault the Counterscarp and Cover'd-way on the side of the Prince of *Hess's* Attack, the Onset began about Eight a Clock at Night, the Besiegers, seconded by the continued Fire, both from the Cannon and Mortars of several Attacks, forc'd their way forwards, drove the Besieged from their Works, and lodg'd themselves there: In which brisk Action General *Tettau* was wounded, with about Ten Officers, and a Hundred and Fifty Soldiers kill'd and wounded, together with the Engineer that commanded in the Works. So much Bravery in the Besieged, and such an amazing Tempest of Artificial Thunder and Lightning, astonish'd the Besieged to that degree, that fearing a second Assault, the next Day they bear Parley, and on the 14<sup>th</sup> of *May* surrendred the Place on honourable Conditions.

While the Duke of *Marlborough* was sat down before *Bon*, the *French* Marshals that commanded in *Flanders*, viz. *Villeroy* and *Boufflers*, thinking to have surpris'd the Confederates that lay dispers'd about *Maesricht*, and to have bombarded the Town it self, and after that to have fallen upon *Liege* on the 6<sup>th</sup> of *May* (N.S. at Night, advanc'd of a sudden into the Neighbourhood of *Tongeren*, with an Army of about Forty Thousand Men; *Boufflers* coming up with part of these Forces on the one side of the Town, and *Villeroy* with the rest on the other, but the Valour and Experience of Monsieur *Auverquerque* preserv'd the Confederate Army.

Soon after, *Bon* being taken, the Duke of *Marlborough* return'd to the Army of the Confederates, consisting of an Hundred and Thirty Squadrons, and Fifty Nine Battalions, and set forward toward *Liege*, as well to secure that Place, as to force the Enemy to decamp from *Tongeren*, where the *French* Army, consisting of Sixty odd Battalions, and above an Hundred Squadrons, seem'd to be very advantageously posted. To which purpose, the Duke the 25<sup>th</sup> of *May* from *Hatch* to *Maesricht*, and having pass'd the River *Jecker*, advanc'd to *Haurid*, where the Enemy intended to have forrag'd that Morning; but upon notice of the Confederates Approach, remov'd to some farther distance, where they continued under their Arms that Night, tho upon the Confederates Advancing to *Niturdorp*, they march'd with great Precipitation to *Bockworm*, not daring to stand the Hazard of a Battle. They also quitt'd *Tongeren*, after they had blown up the Walls and the Tower. The Duke follow'd them, and advanc'd within half a League of their Camp, but the *Jecker* parted the two Armies, and the Enemy had secur'd all the Bridges and Passes of the River: Nevertheless they thought themselves not safe for all this, but re-

reated to Hannu'. 'Tis true that upon the Duke's Advancing to *Tlys* and *Lamin*, the *French* drew up in Order of Battle, and sent away their Baggage, as if they intended to have fought: But their Courage fail'd them once more, and so retired within their Lines.

His Grace finding it impossible to bring the *French* to the Decision of a Battle, it was resolv'd to force them in their Entrenchments, which General *Coeborn* and Baron *Spaar* perform'd with Success in the Country of *Waes*.

All this while his Grace held daily Consultations, and used all possible Stratagems to bring the *French* to an Engagement; but failing in his Design, his Grace, attended with several general Officers, and a Guard of Four Thousand Horse and Dragoons, went to view the Enemies Lines. Lieutenant *Benson*, of the *English* Royal Regiment of Dragoons, with about Thirty *English* being detach'd, fell in with one of the Enemies Out-Guards of Forty Horse, who after one Discharge retired, and were chased by the *English* to the very Barrier of their Entrenchments, which gave the Confederate Generals an opportunity to view them within Musket-shot: And from that his Grace laid a Scheme to force them; but the Execution of that Project was industriously put off from time to time by the Deputies of the States General: So that his Grace order'd *Huy* to be invested, which after a Siege of 9 Days surrendred Prisoners of War. Three Days before a Grand Council of War was held at the Confederate Camp at *Val-Noira D me*, wherein were present, his Grace, the Deputies of the States Generals, Monsieur d' *Auverquerque*, Monsieur *Slangenburgh*, the Lieutenant Generals, and several Major Generals. The Question in Debate was, What Undertaking should be gone upon after *Huy* should be taken? And the Siege of *Limburg* being propos'd, the Generals, whose Names are subscribed, gave the following Opinion rather for attacking the Lines Enemies between the *Mebaigne* and *Luwe*, as an Enterprize that would contribute much more to the Glory and Advantage of the Arms of the Allies: Being all of Opinion that *Limburg* might be attack'd by a Detachment, when the Season was more advanc'd.

Sign'd by his Grace.

*Cha. Churchill Cutts*, *H. Lumley*; Generals of the *English*. *Cha. Rudolph* Duke of *Wintimburgh*, *J. Scholten*; Generals of the *Danes*. *C. Somersfeldt*, *M. Bulow*, *Ernest Augustus* Duke of *Brunswick*, Count de *Noyelles*; Generals of the *Lunenburghers*. *Frederick* Prince of *Hesse*, *Spi-g l de Dieselburgh*, *A. Van Tettau*; Generals of the *Hessians*.

The Reasons were oppos'd by the Deputies of the States, and the *Dutch* Generals, who would not consent to hazard their Troops in an Action, which, they say, was at best very dubious, and which, if intended with success, would yield no farther Advantage, than to find the Enemy retir'd into their fortify'd towns; whereas, on the contrary, should the *French* get the Victory, the United Provinces would remain expos'd to their IncurSIONS. Thereupon the Project of attacking the Lines was laid aside, and the Resolution taken to besiege *Limburg*; which was accordingly invested on the 10th of the following Month. By the 27th the Breach was so wide, that the Confederates were preparing to give a general Assault; which the *French* perceiving, beat a Parley: But all the Conditions they could obtain, were, That the Garrison should remain Prisoners of War, that the Officers and Soldiers might keep what was their own, and that the Officers should be allowed twelve Waggon to carry their Baggage, provided they deliver'd up one of their Gates within half an hour after the Agreement. This being submitted to by the Besieged, and the Garrison, consisting of One Thousand Four Hundred Men, having laid down their Arms, and being march'd out, the Besiegers took possession of the Place, of which his Grace appointed the Baron of *Reckieren* to be Governour. This Conquest put end to the Campaign in the *Netterlands*, which must be acknowledg'd to be very glorious to his Grace, since, besides the taking of three very important Places, viz. *Bonne*, *Huy* and *Limburg*, he did all that lay in the Power of an able Commander to engage the Enemy to a decisive Battle: But it seems the *French* were contented to stand up on the Defensive in *Flanders*, where they were indeed inferior, while their Superiority on the *Rhine*, and in the Heart of the Empire, gave them signal Advantages.

As soon as his Grace was inform'd of the King of *Spain's* arrival at *Dusseldorp*, his Grace left the Army, and then encamped at *St. Tion*, and went to Congratulate his Majesty on his Accession to the *Spanish* Throne, in the Queen of *Great Brittain's* Name. The King having had notice that his Grace was on his way prepar'd to entertain him, and that Day he received the Duke's Visit, his Majesty put on a fine rich Sword which he design'd to present his Grace with, which he did in a very Genteel manner: for while they were both discoursing, his Majesty took it from his side, and giving it into the Duke's Hand with a Gracelul Air, said in *French*, *My Lord, I am not asham'd to say, I am but a Poor Prince nay que la cape et l'Epee, I have only my Cloak and my*



would employ it against his Majesty's Enemies. From thence he accompanied his Catholick Majesty to the *Hague*, who was Royally entertain'd by the States; and having settled some Affairs there, and sent the necessary Orders to distribute the Forces into winter-Quarters, his Grace on the 30th of October following, arriv'd in *England*; and was highly welcom'd at Court.

The next Year, his Grace began the Campaign with his March into *Germany*, where he no sooner arriv'd, but he fell on the Elector of *Bavaria's* Forces at *Scellenberg*, and put them to the Rout, killing 3000 on the Spot, and taking all their Artillery, Baggage, Tents and Ammunition, with 13 Colours: and afterwards passing the *Danube*, his Grace put the Electorate of *Bavaria* under Military Execution as far as *Munich*: when having advice that the *Marschal de Tallard* had join'd the Duke of *Bavaria*, and had pass'd the *Danube* at *Layingen*, with design to fall on Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, his Grace march'd back and join'd that Prince, where it was resolv'd between those two Great Generals to attack the *French* Army; and according the next day being *August* the 13th (N. S.) the Confederate Army began to march, filing off in 9 Columns, and by Six presented themselves before the Enemy's Camp; when his Grace and *Pr. Eugene* being poss'd on an Eminence, call'd to them all the Generals, and gave them the necessary Orders for that Day: And then the Army advanced on the Plain, and were drawn up in order of Battel: By Nine the Cannon began to play on both sides; and every thing being dispos'd, his Grace gave Orders for the General Attack, which was begun on the Left, by three quarters after Twelve. Major General *Wiles* made the first Onset with *English* five Battalions, supported by my Lord *Cuts* and General *Sint-Paul*, with 11 other Battalions, and 15 Squadrons, under Major General *Wood*: The first 5 Battalions charg'd at the Village of *Bleinkheim*, to the very Muzzles of the Enemy's Muskets, but were forced to retreat: While this Brigade rallied, that of *Ferguson* commanded by himself, attack'd the Village of *Bleinkheim* on the Left, but with no better Success. The *English* Foot having thus begun the Engagement, the Horse of that Wing pass'd the River, and fell pell-pell over against the Center of the main Battalia of the Enemy: In a word, all pass'd, and drew up in Order of Battel, as well as the Ground would permit; the Enemy keeping themselves quite on the Hill they were poss'd of: But our Cavalry advancing they mov'd, and charg'd our Men with a great deal of Fury; who being besides flank'd by the Fire from behind the Village of *Bleinkheim*, the first Line of Horse was put into disorder, but Lieutenant General *Bulwer* brought up the second Line, and charg'd the Enemy with such Vigour, that he drove them to the very Hedges of *Bleinkheim*; this gave time to the Cavalry of the Left Wing to rally, and forming themselves entirely in order of Battel, charg'd the Enemy's Horse, and routed them. Part of them endeavour'd to gain the Bridge they had on the *Danube*; the other, among whom were the *Gens d'Arms*, were so closely pursu'd, that those who escap'd being kill'd, threw themselves into the *Danube*, where most of them perish'd. The *Marschal Tallard* was himself envelop'd with Runaways, and taken by the *Hesse's Aid de Camp*.

The Enemy's Loss, according to their own Confessions, amount'd to near 40000 killed, wounded, or taken Prisoners; with 113 Pieces of Cannon, 3600 Tennis, 34 Coaches, 300 laden Mules, and other rich Booties; with the loss of our side, 4485 Men kined, 7525 wounded.

His Grace having clear'd the Empire of its Enemies the *French*, and drove the E. of *Bavaria* out of his Country, and thereby remov'd the war to the very Frontier of *France*. The next Enterprize of moment was the Siege of *Landau*, where his Grace ended his Campaign, and made a Journey afterwards to *Vienna*, *Berlin*, *Hannover*, and so by the way of *Holland* Home. And on the 26th of *March* following his Grace set out for *Holland*, and arriv'd at the *Hague* the 2d of *April* following; and having regulated the Operations for the ensuing Campaign, he set out for *Mastricht*, where he held a Council of War with Monsieur *Averquerque* and the other Generals, and having view'd the *English* Troops encamp'd along the *Maese*, on the 15th of *May* he pass'd that River, in order to march for the *Moselle*, and afterward took the Camp at *Elst*, *Marschal Villars* retreating before him: But the *Germans*, by their Slowness (to say no worse) having balk'd the Campaign on that side, and mean time the *French* having taken *Huy*, and invell'd *Liege*, the States Deputies were not a little importunate with his Grace to march back to the *Netherlands*, where their Troops might be better employed, as it has appear'd since; for upon his Grace's Return, the *French* quitted the Siege of *Liege*, and his Grace also retook *Huy*; After which, having inform'd himself of the Condition of the Enemies Lines, he resolv'd to attack them e'er they were made stronger by further Detachments from the *Moselle*; which was perform'd with great Success; but not finding afterwards an opportunity to attack the *French* Army on the other side the *Dyle*, with the taking *Sandfort* his Grace ended the Campaign.

His Grace during his Stay at Home, besides the Business in Parliament, was taken up with another Affair of mighty Consequence; which was to compleat the Subscriptions of 250000 *l.* to be lent the Emperor for the use of Prince *Eugene*, to carry the war on vigorously the next Campaign in *Italy*; which he had before projected, and communicated to the Court of *Vinna*; by his great Credit among the *English* Nobility soon compleated, to the entire Satisfaction of the Emperor, and the rest of the Allies: which as it rais'd his Esteem in Forreign Courts, so it increas'd the Admiration of that of *France*, who were highly mortified; not only that the Emperor should be necessarily supply'd with such a Sum, but that *England* should be still in a condition to lend it: All which conspir'd to his Grace's Honour and Reputation both at Home and Abroad. This being the greatest Affair his Grace had to dispat. in *England*, he embark'd about the middle of *April* for *Holland*, landing the 15th at *Rotterdam*, from whence he proceeded the same Night to the *Hague*; and was complimented by the Publick Ministers, and other People of Distinction, on his happy Arrival: where the next Day he had a Conference with the Deputies of the States upon the necessary Measures to be taken for opening the ensuing Campaign in *Flanders*: In the mean time the *Dutch* had been busy in drawing their Forces together, which began to Canton along the *Maeſe*: His Grace having regulated all things at the *Hague*, set out for the Army, accompanied by several General Officers; and gave Orders for the *English* Troops to march forthwith and join the *Dutch*, who were then encamp'd near *Tongeren*, to the number of 60 Battallions, and 90 Squadrons.

On *Whitsunday*, being the 23d of *May*, 1706. (N. S.) was fought that memorable and glorious Battle of *Ramillies*, between the Confederate Army under the auspicious Conduct of John Duke of *Marlborough* Prince of the Empire, and Monsieur *Auverquerque* Velt Mar. val of the States General; and the *French* and *Spanish* Armies commanded by *Emanuel* the Duke of *Bavaria*, and Marshal *Villeroy*. His Grace having Intelligence the *French* design'd to offer him Battle, resolv'd to lay hold of the opportunity, and about 10 in the Morning found the Enemy in Order of Battle, having made choice of the Ground, and drawn up the Army to the greatest Advantage. His Grace however, relying on the Goodness of his Troops, advanc'd toward them in eight Columns. About 2 the *English* began the Attack with four Battallions, who soon push'd the Enemies Foot from their Post along the *Gheet*, while Monsieur *Auverquerque* with the rest of the same Wing, charg'd the Enemy Sword in Hand. The Success was doubtful for about half an Hour; which the Duke of *Marlborough* perceiving, order'd the rest of the Horse of the Right Wing (except the *English*, who were 17 Squadrons) to support those on the Left. Here, while his Grace was rallying some, and giving his Orders for others to charge, he was in very great danger, being singled out by several of the resoluteſt of the Enemy, and falling from his Horse at the same time, had either been killed or taken Prisoner, if some of our Foot that was near at hand had not come very seasonably to his Grace's Assistance, and oblig'd the Enemy to retire. After this my Lord Duke had still a greater Escape, a Cannon-Ball taking off Colonel *Bringfield's* Head as he was remounting his Grace. The Village of *Ramillies* was attacked by a Detachment of 12 Battallions of Foot, commanded by Lieutenant-General *Schultz*, which entred at once with great Vigour and Resolution, and drove the Enemy quite out of the Village. By this time the Enemy's Right Wing of Horse being entirely defeated, the Horse of our Left fell upon the Foot of our Right, of whom they slew great Numbers, cutting to pieces about 20 of their Battallions, whose Colours they took, and likewise their Cannon. Thus a compleat Victory was gain'd, in which the *French* had 20000 Men, kill'd, wounded, or taken Prisoners; among which were several Officers of Note, with all their Artillery, Baggage, and Ammunition; besides a great Number of Standards, Colours and Kettle-Drums. This Battle was likewise attended with the Surrender of 10 very important Cities and Towns (*viz.*) *Louvain*, *Brussels*, *Mecklin*, *Lier*, *Antwerp*, *Ghent*, *Bruges*, *Oudenarde*, *Aloll* and *Damme*; which yielded to his Grace's victorious Arms without a Blow struck: After which, Siege was laid to *Ostend*, *Menin*, *Aeth*, and *Dendermond*; all which were taken by Capitulation, to compleat the happy Consequences of this Glorious Victory; and so ended his Grace's Campaign.

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His Grace during his Stay at Home, besides the Business in Parliament, was taken up with another Affair of mighty Consequence; which was to compleat the Subscriptions of 250000 *l.* to be lent the Emperor for the use of Prince *Eugene*, to carry the war on vigorously the next Campaign in *Italy*; which he had before projected, and communicated to the Court of *Vinna*; by his great Credit among the *English* Nobility soon compleated, to the entire Satisfaction of the Emperor, and the rest of the Allies: which as it rais'd his Esteem in Foreign Courts, so it increas'd the Admiration of that of *France*, who were highly mortified; not only that the Emperor should be necessarily supply'd with such a Sum, but that *England* should be still in a condition to lend it: All which conspird to his Grace's Honour and Reputation both at Home and Abroad. This being the greatest Affair his Grace had to dispatch in *England*, he embark'd about the middle of *April* for *Holland*, landing the 15th at *Rotterdam*, from whence he proceeded the same Night to the *Hague*; and was complimented by the Publick Ministers, and other People of Distinction, on his happy Arrival: where the next Day he had a Conference with the Deputies of the States upon the necessary Measures to be taken for opening the ensuing Campaign in *Flanders*: In the mean time the *Dutch* had been busy in drawing their Forces together, which began to Canton along the *Maese*: His Grace having regulated all things at the *Hague*, set out for the Army, accompanied by several General Officers; and gave Orders for the *English* Troops to march forthwith and join the *Dutch*, who were then encamp'd near *Tongeren*, to the number of 60 Battallions, and 90 Squadrons.

On *Whitsunday*, being the 23d of *May*, 1706. (N. S.) was fought that memorable and glorious Battle of *Ramillies*, between the Confederate Army under the auspicious Conduct of John Duke of *Marlborough* Prince of the Empire, and Monsieur *Auverquerque* Velt Mar. bal of the States General; and the *French* and *Spanish* Armies commanded by *Emanuel* the Duke of *Bavaria*, and Marshal *Villeroy*. His Grace having Intelligence the *French* design'd to offer him Battle, resolv'd to lay hold of the opportunity, and about 10 in the Morning found the Enemy in Order of Battle, having made choice of the Ground, and drawn up the Army to the greatest Advantage. His Grace however, relying on the Goodness of his Troops, advanc'd toward them in eight Columns. About 2 the *English* began the Attack with four Battallions, who soon push'd the Enemies Foot from their Post along the *Gheet*, while Monsieur *Auverquerque* with the rest of the same Wing, charg'd the Enemy sword in Hand. The Success was doubtful for about half an Hour; which the Duke of *Marlborough* perceiving, order'd the rest of the Horse of the Right Wing (except the *English*, who were 17 Squadrons) to support those on the Left. Here, while his Grace was rallying some, and giving his Orders for others to charge, he was in very great danger, being singled out by several of the resolute of the Enemy, and talking from his Horse at the same time, had either been killed or taken Prisoner, if some of our Foot that was near at hand had not come very seasonably to his Grace's Assistance, and oblig'd the Enemy to retire. After this my Lord Duke had still a greater Escape, a Cannon-Ball taking off Colonel *Bringfield's* Head as he was remounting his Grace. The Village of *Ramillies* was attacked by a Detachment of 12 Battalions of Foot, commanded by Lieutenant-General *Schultz*, which entred at once with great Vigour and Resolution, and drove the Enemy quite out of the Village. By this time the Enemy's Right Wing of Horse being entirely defeated, the Horse of our Left fell upon the Foot of our Right, of whom they slew great Numbers, cutting to pieces about 20 of their Battallions, whose Colours they took, and likewise their Cannon. Thus a compleat Victory was gain'd, in which the *French* had 20000 Men, kill'd, wounded, or taken Prisoners; among which were several Officers of Note, with all their Artillery, Baggage, and Ammunition; besides a great Number of Standards, Colours and Kettle-Drums. This Battle was likewise attended with the Surrender of 10 very important Cities and Towns (*viz.*) *Louvain*, *Brussels*, *Mecklin*, *Lier*, *Antwerp*, *Ghent*, *Bruges*, *Oudenarde*, *Atoll* and *Damme*; which yielded to his Grace's victorious Arms without a Blow struck: After which, Siege was laid to *Ostend*, *Menin*, *Aeth*, and *Dendermond*; all which were taken by Capitulation, to compleat the happy Consequences of this Glorious Victory; and so ended his Grace's Campaign.

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